

PATENT

## IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant: Jose M. G.-M.
Freire, et al.

Date: October 18, 2002

Serial No:: 09/829,779

Examiner: A. Pryor

Filed: April 10, 2001

Group Art Unit: 1616

For: "Growth . . ."

Our Ref: 618736-3/JP/B-4158

Hon. Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks Washington, D.C., 20231

Sir:

In response to the Office Action that was mailed on June 18, 2002, please enter the following amendments and remarks into the prosecution history of the above-identified application without prejudice or disclaimer.

## IN THE CLAIMS

Please replace currently pending Claims 12-14 and 47 with amended Claims 12-14 and 47, which are set forth in the enclosed Appendix A. (Appendix B, which is enclosed herewith, shows how currently